# FluBytes



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## CDC SUMMARY OF 2013-14 FLU SEASON

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published a summary of 2013-14 influenza activity in the U.S. in this week's <u>MMWR</u>. Flu activity increased through November and December before peaking in late December. 2009 H1N1 viruses predominated overall. This was the first flu season since the 2009 H1N1 pandemic that pH1N1 viruses predominated.

The 2013-14 season had lower levels of outpatient illness and mortality than H3N2-predominant seasons but had higher rates of hospitalization among adults 50-64 years compared with recent years. As of May 30, there were 96 lab-confirmed flu-associated pediatric deaths reported in the U.S, 79 of which were associated with flu A infections.

## MDCH IMMUNIZATION WEBSITE CHANGES

The MDCH immunization home page has been redesigned. To see the new look, visit <a href="www.michigan.gov/immunize">www.michigan.gov/immunize</a>. Some further upcoming changes will include dividing the <a href="Health Care Professionals">Health Care Professionals</a> site into 6 categories so things will be easier to find. There will also be enhancements to the <a href="Waccine Information for the Public">Vaccine Information for the Public</a> web page.

Please note! Some of the links will change. If you have MDCH immunization pages bookmarked currently, you may have to check your links. We hope you find the new design more user-friendly!

## CDC WEBSITE UPDATED - HOW FLU VACCINES ARE MADE

A CDC website on <u>How Influenza Vaccines Are Made</u> was updated at the end of May. The site describes the three different flu vaccine production technologies that are currently utilized - egg-based, cell-based, and recombinant.

# AVIAN INFLUENZA A(H7N9) NEWS AND JOURNAL ARTICLES The number of H7N9 cases in China has slowed down throughout spring 2014. The global outbreak total is now 449 cases with at least 157 deaths since February 2013.

- CHP notified of 4 additional human cases of avian influenza A(H7N9) in mainland China
- Seroprevalence to H7N9 virus among poultry workers and the general population in southern China: a longitudinal study

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## INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Needle-free jet injection for administration of influenza vaccine: a randomized non-inferiority trial
  - Immune response to flu vaccine given with jet injector device non-inferior to response to needle & syringe vaccine
  - Jet injector device had clinically acceptable safety profile, associated with more local injection site reactions than needle/syringe
- Eurosurveillance: Uptake and impact of a new LAIV program in England: early results of pilot in primary school-age children, 2013-14 season
  - 7 pilot areas in England during 2013-14 that did universal LAIV program in 4-11 year-olds
  - Overall vaccine uptake (1+ dose) was 52.5%
  - Decrease in disease incidence and flu positivity seen in pilot areas compared to non-pilot areas, but not statistically significant
- Study finds when hospital personnel are vaccinated, community flu rates fall
  - If 90% of California healthcare personnel were vaccinated, there would be 30,000 fewer cases of flu-like illness in California
- Influenza vaccination during pregnancy: qualitative study of knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and practices of general practitioners in Central and Southwestern Sydney
  - General practitioners have varied knowledge, attitudes, beliefs about flu vaccination during pregnancy
  - Addressing these could improve vaccine uptake during pregnancy

## OTHER INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS

- Healthcare influenza vaccination made easier with automatic scheduling by Mobile Health in New York City
- World Health Organization: Global influenza update

# **FLU WEBSITES**

www.michigan.gov/flu www.cdc.gov/flu www.flu.gov http://vaccine.healthmap.org/